Plant Germplasm Preservation Research Unit
USDA-ARS National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation
Fort Collins, Colorado
Research Leader: Dr. Christina Walters (christina.walters@ars.usda.gov)

Plant Germplasm Preservation Research

Developing state-of-art tools to improve genebank capacity and efficiency

The Plant Germplasm Preservation Research Unit's unique mission helps improve the efficiency of collecting, maintaining and documenting plant diversity represented within the National Plant Germplasm System. The research team uses interdisciplinary approaches to solve the most critical problems of genetic resource collections. Research provides technologies to

- keep germplasm alive, healthy and representative of the source population
- describe collection composition
- ensure stored germplasm meets the needs of diverse users

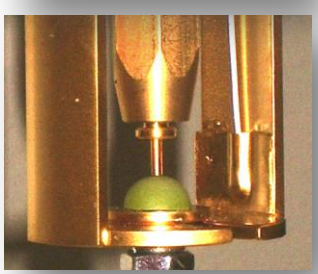
Research efforts are vital to the overall goal of creating relevant scientific collections that help us understand, protect and use plant diversity in a changing world.

Dr. Chris Richards | Dr. Christina Walters | Dr. Gayle Volk

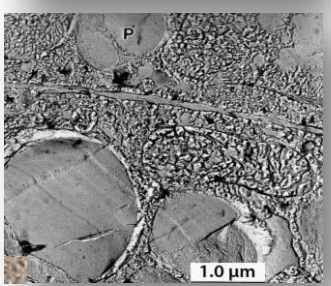
wild populations

tropical & subtropical

cryotherapy



predictive assays



cryobiology

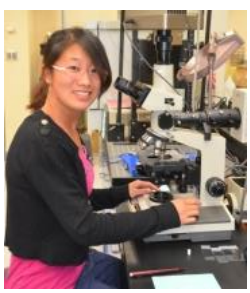
PGPRU Expertise and Staff

Research from population genetics to biophysics at cryogenic temperatures to gene expression during recovery is conducted by a permanent staff comprised of three principle investigators and seven support scientists/technicians.

Scientists from all over the world train and collaborate in PGPRU's labs.

Spain

Poland



China

Egypt

Hawaii

Brazil